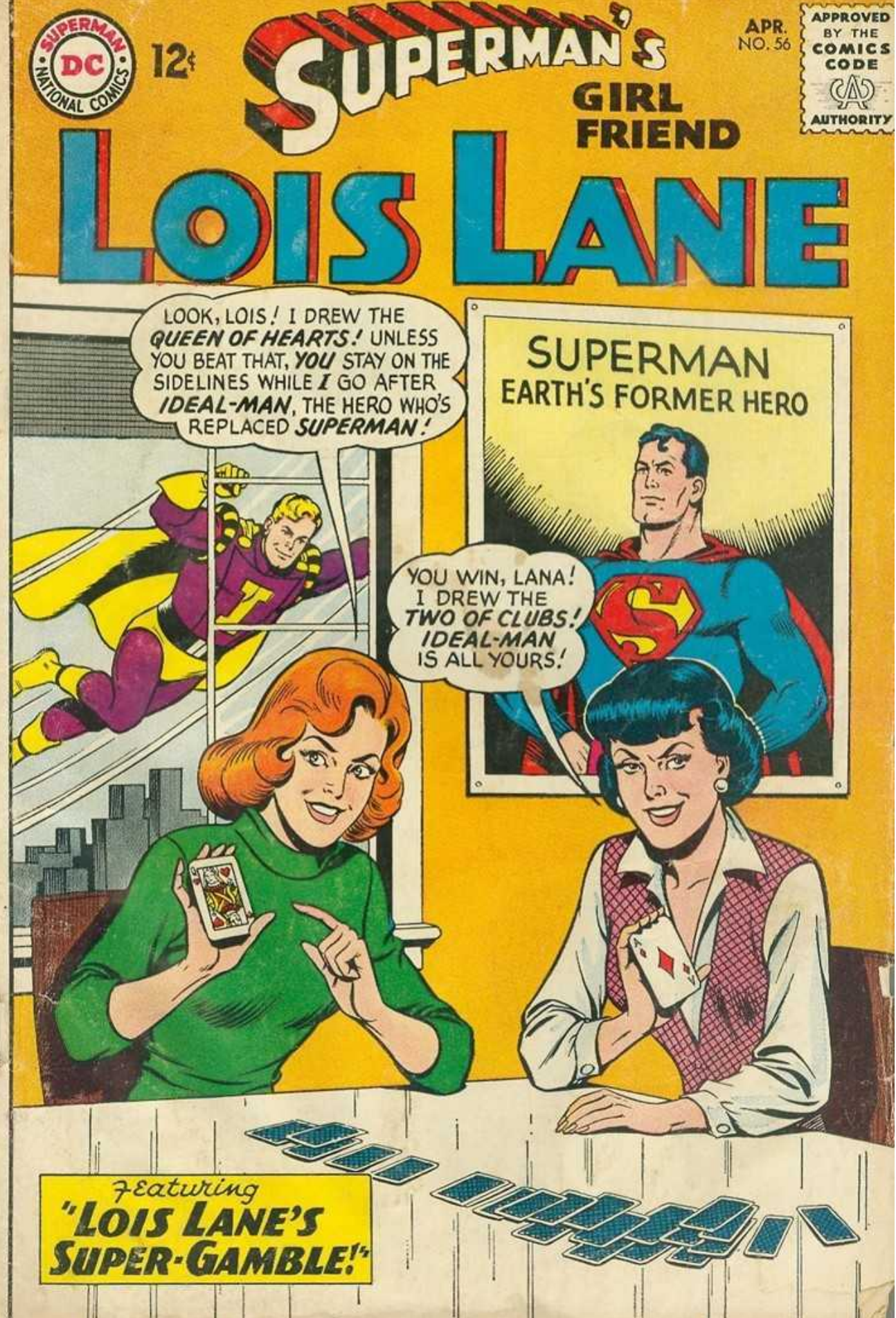
SUPERMAN
DC
NATIONAL COMICS
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SUPERMAN'S GIRL FRIEND
LOIS LANE
APR.
NO. 56
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
LOOK, LOIS! I DREW THE QUEEN OF HEARTS! UNLESS YOU BEAT THAT, YOU STAY ON THE SIDELINES WHILE I GO AFTER IDEAL-MAN, THE HERO WHO'S REPLACED SUPERMAN!
SUPERMAN
EARTH'S FORMER HERO
YOU WIN, LANA! I DREW THE TWO OF CLUBS! IDEAL-MAN IS ALL YOURS!
featuring
"LOIS LANE'S SUPER-GAMBLE!"

SUPERMAN'S GIRL FRIEND

LOIS LANE

THE CURIOSITY OF LOIS LANE HAS MADE BIG TROUBLE FOR HERSELF AND FOR SUPERMAN MANY TIMES IN THE PAST! BUT NOW HER INCURABLE SNOOPING PLUNGES HER INTO A STRANGE SITUATION THAT MAKES HER...

The SNOOPIEST GIRL in HISTORY!

WHENEVER SHE'S AFTER A SCOOP, REPORTER LOIS LANE LETS NOTHING STOP HER!

NOBODY'S BEEN ABLE TO GET A STORY ON PROFESSOR EVANS' EXPERIMENT IN SENDING MATTER THROUGH TIME... BUT THIS OPEN WINDOW IN HIS LABORATORY WILL HELP ME GET IT!

BUT INSIDE...
SUPERMAN! ER... I WAS ONLY AFTER A STORY...
AND UP TO YOUR OLD TRICKS TO GET IT! NO, LOIS... PROFESSOR EVANS' EXPERIMENT IS SO IMPORTANT, I'M GUARDING HIS LABORATORY FOR HIM WHILE HE'S AWAY... AND NO ONE, INCLUDING YOU, GETS IN!

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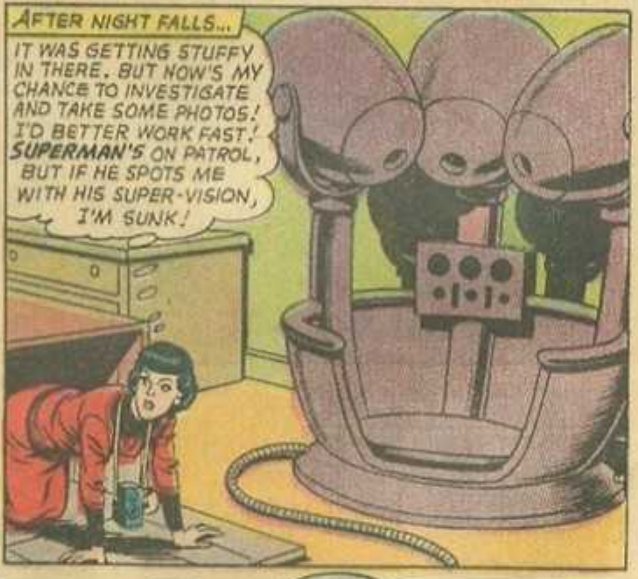
YOU CAN'T DO THIS TO ME! I'LL GET THE STORY ON THIS EXPERIMENT IN SPITE OF YOU!
LOIS, YOUR SNOOPING IS ALWAYS MAKING TROUBLE FOR ME... SOMEDAY, IT'LL GET YOU IN A SPOT WHERE EVEN I CAN'T HELP YOU.

BUT LOIS DOES NOT DISCOURAGE EASILY.
NOW THAT I'VE CALLED THE DELIVERY COMPANY, I'LL CLOSE UP THIS CRATE I'VE LINED WITH SHEET-LEAD, WHICH SUPERMAN CAN'T SEE THROUGH... AND I'LL SOON SHOW HIM WHAT REAL SNOOPING MEANS!
PROF. ROBERT EVANS 11 JUNE STREET METROPOLIS

SOON... PROFESSOR EVANS IS AWAY, BUT I'LL SIGN FOR THIS CRATE!
IF I COULD HANDLE WEIGHTS LIKE YOU DO, MY JOB WOULD BE A BREEZE!


AFTER NIGHT FALLS...
IT WAS GETTING STUFFY IN THERE. BUT NOW'S MY CHANCE TO INVESTIGATE AND TAKE SOME PHOTOS! I'D BETTER WORK FAST! SUPERMAN'S ON PATROL, BUT IF HE SPOTS ME WITH HIS SUPER-VISION, I'M SUNK!

HOWEVER, THE VIGILANT MAN OF STEEL HAS ALREADY SPOTTED LOIS!
OH, NO! I'M CAUGHT AGAIN...
LOIS! DON'T STEP ONTO THAT PLATFORM! IT AUTOMATICALLY SWITCHES ON THE PROJECTING FORCE...
CLICK

...THAT HURLS MATTER THROUGH TIME! TOO LATE...

A MOMENT OF DARKNESS, A SENSATION OF FALLING THROUGH ENDLESS ABYSSES, AND LOIS REGAINS AWARENESS...
A BEAUTIFUL WOMAN IN STRANGE ATTIRE...APPEARING OUT OF THIN AIR!
HE'S SPEAKING ANCIENT GREEK... I STUDIED IT AT COLLEGE AND UNDERSTAND IT...GOOD HEAVENS! I'VE BEEN HURLED BACK TO ANCIENT GREECE...OVER 3,000 YEARS IN THE PAST!

THE GODS MUST HAVE SENT YOU TO BE MY MATE... YOU'RE SO LOVELY!
OH, NO! I'M NOT GOING TO MARRY THIS MAN! BUT WAIT A MINUTE... SUPERMAN WILL SURELY COME BACK THROUGH TIME TO RESCUE ME, VERY SOON...

IF HE FINDS ME APPARENTLY ABOUT TO MARRY SOMEONE ELSE, HE'LL BE SO JEALOUS THAT HE WILL FINALLY PROPOSE TO ME! I'LL GO ALONG WITH THIS FOR A WHILE!

THEN, SPEAKING WITH THE GREEK SHE LEARNED YEARS BEFORE...
YOU'RE VERY HANDSOME... WHAT IS YOUR NAME?
I AM EPIMETHEUS, A STUDENT OF SCIENCE! I'LL TAKE YOU TO THE HOME WHERE MY BROTHER AND I STUDY THE LAWS OF NATURE!

SOON, IN THE SMALL TOWN NEARBY...
EVERYONE STARES AT MY DRESS... I'LL NEED CLOTHES SUCH AS WOMEN WEAR HERE! BUT YOU'RE SNEEZING... HAVE YOU A COLD?
IT WAS ONLY THE DUST THAT CHARIOT RAISED THAT MADE ME SNEEZE... I HAVE NO COLD! NOBODY EVER GETS SICK HERE!
A-CHOO!

EPIMETHEUS LEADS LOIS TO A CHARIOT, AND...
THIS MUST BE THE LEGENDARY GOLDEN AGE OF GREECE, WHEN THERE WAS NO ILLNESS AND EVERYONE WAS HAPPY!
SEE? UP THERE IS WHERE MY BROTHER PROMETHEUS AND I LIVE AND STUDY!

YOU SAY YOUR NAME IS "LO-IS"? IT'S A STRANGE NAME FOR A BEAUTIFUL WOMAN, BUT IT WILL SOON BE CHANGED ...OUR CUSTOM IS FOR THE BRIDEGROOM TO GIVE THE BRIDE A NEW NAME AT MARRIAGE!

SOON, AS EPIMETHEUS INTRODUCES LOIS TO HIS BROTHER...

...AND THE GODS SENT HER TO ME TO BE MY WIFE, PROMETHEUS!
IN MYTHOLOGY, PROMETHEUS IS A WORKER OF MIRACLES... BUT ACTUALLY, HE AND HIS BROTHER ARE ANCIENT SCIENTISTS! WHAT A STORY TO TAKE BACK WHEN SUPERMAN RESCUES ME... I'LL PHOTOGRAPH THEIR EXPERIMENTS!

THEN EPIMETHEUS SHOWS HIS PROSPECTIVE BRIDE AROUND...

THIS STRANGE ROCK THAT FELL FROM THE SKY HAS POWER TO CHANGE ANIMALS WHICH ARE BRED NEAR IT... TO CREATE STRANGE NEW BREEDS OF BEASTS! BUT YOU MUST NOT GO TOO CLOSE TO IT!
IN OTHER WORDS, IT'S A RADIOACTIVE METEORITE GIVING OFF RADIATIONS WHICH CAUSE MUTATIONS IN ANIMALS. THESE TWO BROTHERS ARE REALLY BRILLIANT SCIENTISTS!

NOW I'LL GO AND ORDER THE SERVANTS TO GET YOU SOME PROPER CLOTHING, MY BRIDE-TO-BE!
DON'T HURRY, EPIMETHEUS! THIS WILL GIVE ME A CHANCE TO EXPLORE THE PLACE AND TAKE PICTURES OF EVERYTHING! I CAN'T WAIT TO SEE WHAT'S BEHIND THOSE DOORS!

BUT, AS THE ALWAYS-CURIOUS LOIS EXPLORES, SHE OPENS ONE DOOR TO FACE A SHOCKING SIGHT...

HORRIFIED, LOIS REGAINS HER QUICK-WITTEDNESS...
IF ONLY MY FLASH-GUN DAZZLES IT LONG ENOUGH FOR ME TO SHUT THE DOOR ON IT...
I'M GETTING OUT OF HERE! I THINK THIS IS THE DOOR WE CAME IN BY!
SLAM
BUT...
I GOT THE WRONG DOOR AND LET ANOTHER MONSTER OUT... IT'S THE PHOENIX OF MYTH, BUT IT'S REAL, AND IT'S COMING RIGHT AFTER ME!
HELP! SUPERMAN... EPIMETHEUS... ANYBODY!
SUDDENLY...
LIKE ALL ANIMALS, THIS CREATURE FEARS FIRE! WITH THESE TORCHES, I CAN HERD THE PHOENIX BACK INTO ITS CAGE!

SOON... THERE ARE OTHER STRANGE BEASTS HERE, CREATED BY EXPOSURE TO THE POWER OF THE ROCK.. BUT YOU MUST BE CAREFUL, FOR YOUR CURIOSITY NEARLY KILLED YOU!
I'LL NOT GET CURIOUS AGAIN... BUT LET ME SEE THE OTHER ANIMALS!
AS EPIMETHEUS SHOWS LOIS THE STRANGE BEASTS...
THIS IS THE CHIMERA!
WHAT PICTURES I'M GETTING!... MY CURIOSITY IS PAYING OFF IN THE GREATEST STORY OF THE AGE!
CLICK!
AND WE CALL THIS ONE THE GRIFFIN!
CLICK!
EVERYONE IN THE FUTURE THINKS THESE MONSTERS WERE MYTHS OF THE PAST! BUT THEY WERE REALLY MUTATIONS! WHAT A SCOOP!
THEN... THIS IS MY LABORATORY... YOU CAN LOOK AROUND, IF YOU DON'T TOUCH ANYTHING, WHILE I GET PROPER CLOTHING FOR YOU!
MY CURIOSITY HAS HAD ENOUGH FOR TODAY!
BUT LOIS' STRONGEST TRAIT ISN'T SO EASILY STIFLED..
THIS MIRROR LOOKS LIKE A BIG HELIOGRAPH FOR SIGNALING BY REFLECTED SUNLIGHT... IT'D BE FUN TO TRY IT!
AND, AS LOIS MANIPULATES THE MIRROR..
OH-OH! I GOOFED AGAIN! IT CONCENTRATES SUN-LIGHT AS A WEAPON... ITS HOT BEAM HAS SET FIRE TO THE CURTAINS! THERE MUST BE WATER HERE SOMEWHERE...

THAT PUT IT OUT... I'LL PHOTOGRAPH THIS SUN-WEAPON, TOO...

THEN, RESUMING HER CURIOUS INSPECTION...
THE INSCRIPTION ON THIS CHEST READS, "NOT TO BE OPENED BY ANYONE. BEWARE!" ...I WONDER WHAT SECRET EPIMETHEUS KEEPS IN IT?

BUT, MEANWHILE...
YOU'RE WRONG, PROMETHEUS... MY NEW BRIDE WOULD NOT INTERFERE WITH OUR STUDIES!
LOOK AT THAT SMOKE! RIGHT NOW, SHE MUST BE UP TO SOMETHING IN YOUR LABORATORY!

MOMENTS LATER...
STOP! YOU MUST NEVER OPEN THAT CHEST!
I WAS ONLY... ER... LOOKING AT IT! WHAT DO YOU KEEP IN IT?

I CAN'T TELL YOU THAT...IT'S TOO BIG A SECRET! BUT HERE IS YOUR WEDDING ROBE, AND THIS BETROTHAL RING IS ENGRAVED INSIDE WITH THE NEW NAME I'M GIVING YOU FOR OUR MARRIAGE!
OH, THANKS, EPIMETHEUS! I'LL GO PUT THE ROBE ON!
WHAT CAN BE IN THAT CHEST?

A LITTLE LATER, UNABLE TO RESTRAIN HER CURIOSITY... I'LL JUST TAKE A PEEK AND CLOSE IT AGAIN! THE CHEST WAS TIGHTLY SEALED, BUT NOW I HAVE IT OPEN!
7

WHY, THERE'S NOTHING IN THIS CHEST BUT SWARMS OF ORDINARY FLIES!
OH, RASH WOMAN! THOSE FLIES ARE THE CARRIERS OF DISEASES I'VE BEEN STUDYING, WHICH EXIST IN FAR COUNTRIES, BUT NOT HERE! NOW YOU'VE LET THEM LOOSE ON OUR HAPPY LAND, WHICH HAS NEVER KNOWN ILLNESS!

AND BY THE NEXT DAY, THE GOLDEN AGE HAS STARTED TO VANISH...

YOU DIDN'T KNOW WHAT YOU WERE DOING...COUGH!...SO, EVEN THOUGH WE NOW HAVE COLDS AND OTHER ILLNESSES, WE WON'T PUNISH YOU FOR IT! OUR...COUGH!...WEDDING WILL TAKE PLACE NOW!
I...ER...HAVE SOME THINGS TO DO FIRST...
I CAN'T MARRY HIM... SUPERMAN HASN'T COME FOR ME, SO I MUST GET OUT OF HERE, SOMEHOW...

BUT WHEN LOIS TRIES TO LEAVE...

I'VE ORDERS TO KEEP THE BRIDGE CLOSED UNTIL AFTER THE WEDDING TO PREVENT INTERRUPTIONS!
WHICH MEANS I CAN'T GET AWAY... SUPERMAN, WHERE ARE YOU?
LOIS! FINALLY I'VE FOUND YOU!

AND AS SUPERMAN CARRIES THE GIRL REPORTER AWAY AT SUPER-SPEED...

I HAD TO SEARCH THROUGH THOUSANDS OF YEARS! I HOPE THIS EXPERIENCE HAS CURED YOU OF SNOOPING!
OH, SUPERMAN! YOU TALK AS THOUGH I WERE THE ONLY CURIOUS WOMAN THAT EVER LIVED... JUST GET ME THROUGH THE TIME-BARRIER TO HOME!

LATER, AFTER RETURNING TO THE PRESENT...

THAT "SHINING ROCK OF POWER" WAS RADIO-ACTIVE... IT FOGGED MY FILMS, SO I CAN'T PROVE MY STORY! THE ONLY SOUVENIR I HAVE IS THE RING EPIMETHEUS GAVE ME, WITH MY NEW NAME ON IT!
WHAT IS THE NAME?
8

WHY, IT'S ENGRAVED, "EPIMETHEUS TO PANDORA"! THEN I'M THE PANDORA OF LEGEND!
THE MOST CURIOUS WOMAN OF ALL TIME, WHO OPENED PANDORA'S BOX... AND RELEASED TROUBLE ONTO MANKIND! HA, HA!... I MIGHT HAVE KNOWN SHE COULD ONLY BE YOU!
THE END

SUPERMAN'S GIRL FRIEND LOIS LANE

AS GIRL NEWSHOUND FOR THE **DAILY PLANET**, LOIS LANE HAS HAD MANY STRANGE EXPERIENCES, BUT NONE MORE AMAZING THAN THE INCREDIBLE MENTAL POWERS SHE EXHIBITS ONE DAY, WHEN HER EVERY HUNCH TURNS OUT **RIGHT!** BUT WHEN THE UNDERWORLD NABS LOIS, HER PSYCHIC GIFT ONLY SERVES CRIMINALS BY REVEALING SECRET INFORMATION LEADING THEM TO LOOT! IS IT TELEPATHY? CLAIRVOYANCE? A SIXTH SENSE? OR IS THERE ANOTHER EXPLANATION? SEE IF YOU CAN GUESS THE PHENOMENON BEHIND THE MENTAL FEATS DISPLAYED BY..

LOIS LANE, SUPER-TELEPATH!

GOODNESS! BUT I-I JUST WROTE DOWN **THE FIRST FIVE NUMBERS** THAT CAME INTO MY HEAD! HOW COULD THEY TURN OUT TO BE THE **EXACT COMBINATION** OF THE SAFE THEY WANTED TO ROB??? WHY DO I **ALWAYS GUESS RIGHT?**

11 RIGHT
13 LEFT
5 LEFT
BACK 8
FORWARD 15

THAT SAFE OPENED EASY AS PIE, BOSS!

ANOTHER BIG HAUL... THANKS TO **MISS TELEPATH!** HA, HA!

ONE EVENING, AT THE **BLUE TUXEDO**, WELL-KNOWN **METROPOLIS** NIGHT CLUB, A NEW ACT IS ANNOUNCED.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN! WE GIVE YOU "**MISS TELEPATH**," THE SENSATIONAL GIRL MENTALIST! HER UNCANNY POWERS WILL AMAZE YOU, AFTER SHE IS BLINDFOLDED BY HER ASSISTANT!

BUT WHY ARE LOIS LANE AND JIMMY OLSEN, REPORTERS FOR THE **DAILY PLANET**, ENTERTAINING THE PATRONS?

NOBODY RECOGNIZES US! NOW, REMEMBER THE WORD-CODE WE WORKED OUT TOGETHER, JIMMY! THE NIGHT-CLUB OWNER ONLY AGREED TO LET US PUT ON OUR FREE ACT **ONCE!**

I KNOW, LOIS! WE HAVE TO MAKE YOUR PLAN WORK TONIGHT, FOR SURE!

AS THE DISGUISED JIMMY GOES AMONG THE PATRONS...
MISS TELEPATH!...NAME THIS RING'S GEM STONE!
HMM...OUTSIDE OF MY TITLE, JIMMY USED FIVE WORDS! THE FIFTH LETTER IN THE ALPHABET IS "E"!
AH, IT'S COMING TO ME!... I SEE GREEN FLASHES!... THE GEM STONE IS...
...AN EMERALD!
REMARKABLE! SHE GAVE THE RIGHT ANSWER!
MISS TELEPATH IS ALWAYS RIGHT! SHE KNOWS ALL...SEES ALL... DETECTS ALL... THROUGH HER MYSTERIOUS MENTAL POWERS! YOU, SIR! EMPTY THE COINS IN YOUR POCKET ON THE TABLE, PLEASE!
JIMMY CLEVERLY CUES LOIS AGAIN...
A-1, B-2, C-3, D-4, E-5, F-6, G-7, H-8, I-9, J-10, K-11, L-12, M-13, N-14, O-15, P-16, Q-17, R-18, S-19, T-20, U-21, V-22, W-23, X-24, Y-25, Z-26.
ATTENTION, MISS TELEPATH! HOW MANY COINS ON THE TABLE?
"ATTENTION" IN OUR CODE MEANS "COUNT THE LETTERS" HMM...22 IN ALL! NUMBER 22 IN THE ALPHABET IS "V", 5 IN ROMAN NUMERALS...
THE MISTS ARE PARTING!...I SEE THE ANSWER TAKING SHAPE...
...FIVE COINS!
GOSH! DOESN'T SHE EVER MISS?
NEVER! MISS TELEPATH'S SIXTH SENSE CAN'T FAIL! SOMEBODY WRITE DOWN THEIR TELEPHONE NUMBER!
2

AGAIN AND AGAIN, CUED BY JIMMY'S SECRET WORD-CODE, LOIS "MISS TELEPATH" LANE ASTOUNDS THE AUDIENCE!

318-4466

TELEPHONE NUMBER 318-4466!...

CARMINE CHARM LIP-STICK!

25TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY PRESENT!

BUT ALL OF THIS HAS HAD A SECRET PURPOSE!

LOIS SET UP THIS DEAL TO IMPRESS THAT GANG BOSS, "LONG ODDS" LARKIN, WHO COMES HERE OFTEN! THE TIME IS RIPE, SO...

SIR! WRITE DOWN THE DATE OF YOUR BIRTHDAY! "MISS TELEPATH" WILL REVEAL IT WITHOUT SEEING IT!

OKAY, CHUM! I WANT TO TRY OUT HER POWERS MYSELF!

"MISS TELEPATH"! WHAT IS THIS GENTLEMAN'S BIRTH-DATE AND WHO IS HE? CAREFUL NOW!

THE SECOND SENTENCE IS OUR PREARRANGED SIGNAL THAT JIMMY'S SUBJECT IS NOW "LONG ODDS" LARKIN HIMSELF! THEN, IN THE LAST TWO WORDS, "C" OF "CAREFUL" IS 3...AND "N" OF "NOW" IS 14, SO...

"LONG ODDS" LARKIN! BORN ON MARCH 14TH!

RIGHT ON THE BUTTON! WOW! THAT GAL'S NO PHONEY!

THAT'S WHAT HE THINKS! LOOKS LIKE HE BIT, HOOK, LINE AND SINKER!

AFTER THEIR "ONE-NIGHT STAND," AS LOIS AND JIMMY LEAVE...

YOU FIGURE LARKIN WILL WANT TO USE YOUR "TELEPATH" TALENT FOR CRIME, EH? YOU'RE PLAYING A DANGEROUS GAME, LOIS!

NOT WITH THE LOAN OF YOUR SUPERMAN SIGNAL-WATCH, JIMMY! MY PLAN WILL PUT "LONG ODDS" BEHIND BARS...WAIT AND SEE! NOW, GET LOST!

ALONE, LOIS CONTINUES HER DARING SCHEME...

I'M HOPING LARKIN IS HANGING AROUND! I'LL MAKE IT EASY FOR HIM...ALONE ON A DESERTED STREET...UNABLE TO HAIL A CAB...WILL HE STRIKE?

SUDDENLY...
I'LL GIVE YOU A RIDE, SISTER! COME IN... PLEASE! HA, HA!
I'LL PRETEND FRIGHT...
HELP! I'M BEING KIDNAPPED!

GAG HER, TRIXIE! WITH "MISS TELEPATH" HELPING US, WE CAN CLEAN UP! TO THE HIDEOUT, "BUTCH"!
JUST WHAT I WANT! THE POLICE HAVE NEVER FOUND LARKIN'S SECRET HIDEOUT! WHAT A SCOOP FOR ME!

LATER...
MRT SUBWAY
DANGER KEEP OUT DISCONTINUED SUBWAY LINE
NO WONDER! HIS HIDE-OUT IS DOWN IN THIS ABANDONED SUBWAY TUNNEL! THE BLOCK-ADE IS FIXED TO SWING OPEN AUTO-MATICALLY WHEN HE PRESSES A BUTTON IN HIS CAR!

BELOW, AN OLD SUBWAY COACH HAS BEEN COMFORTABLY OUTFITTED BY LARKIN'S CRIMINAL GANG...
THAT STOLEN LOOT IS THE EVIDENCE NEEDED TO JAIL LARKIN AND HIS MOB! TIME TO SIGNAL SUPERMAN FOR THE CAPTURE!
ZEE-ZEE-ZEE-ZE

BUT LOIS DOESN'T KNOW THAT THE ULTRASONIC SIGNAL CANNOT PENETRATE INTO OUTER SPACE, WHERE THE MAN OF STEEL IS PERFORMING A VITAL MISSION...
A GIANT COMET IS ABOUT TO CRASH INTO THAT DISTANT, INHABITED WORLD! IT WILL TAKE ALL MY SUPER-SPEED TO GET THERE IN TIME!

AND THE DISGUISED GIRL REPORTER FINDS HERSELF IN A TRAP OF HER OWN MAKING!
SUPERMAN DIDN'T SHOW UP! WH-WHAT HAVE I GOTTEN MYSELF INTO?
LOOK, SISTER! TO FOIL BANDITS, THE METRO BANK USES FIVE ARMORED TRUCKS! BUT FOUR ARE DECOYS! ONLY ONE CARRIES THE REAL MONEY SHIPMENT EACH NIGHT... AND THEY CHANGE OFF AFTER EVERY DELIVERY!
1
2
3
4
5

HERE'S WHERE YOU COME IN, "MISS TELEPATH"! DO YOUR STUFF LIKE YOU DID ON THE STAGE! TELL US WHICH TRUCK WILL CARRY THE MONEY TONIGHT
OMIGOSH! HOW SHOULD I KNOW? I HAVE NO MENTAL POWERS! BUT I'D BETTER MAKE A WILD GUESS...
IT'S...UH... TRUCK #3!
OKAY, MEN! GET GOING! YOU KNOW THE ROUTE OF TRUCK #3! "MISS TELEPATH" HAD BETTER BE RIGHT...OR ELSE!
GULP!...IF I'M WRONG, I DON'T NEED MENTAL POWERS TO GUESS WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO ME!
AN HOUR DRAGS BY, AND THEN...
THAT DAME WAS RIGHT, BOSS! HERE'S THE LOOT FROM TRUCK #3!
GOODNESS! I HAVE NO REAL TELEPATHIC POWERS! SO MY GUESSING RIGHT WITH ONE CHANCE IN FIVE WAS SHEER LUCK! NOW MAYBE "LONG ODDS" LARKIN WILL LET ME GO...
NO SUCH LUCK, LOIS!
BOY! WE'LL CLEAN UP BIG WITH YOU HELPING US, SISTER! NOW TELL US THE COMBINATION OF THIS SAFE, WHERE A COMPANY PAYROLL IS LOCKED UP!
YIPES! I-I'LL NEVER GUESS THIS ONE RIGHT! BUT I HAVE TO PLAY FOR TIME AND KEEP SIGNALING SUPERMAN!
ZEE-ZEE-Z
I'LL JUST SAY ANYTHING THAT COMES TO MY MIND...
THE COMBINATION IS 11 RIGHT...13 LEFT...5 LEFT...BACK TO 8...FORWARD TO 15!
GOT IT! MY MEN WILL GO OUT AND KNOCK OFF THAT SAFE RIGHT NOW!
11 RIGHT
13 LEFT
5 LEFT
BACK 8
FORWARD 15
WHEN THE HENCHMEN RETURN, LATER...
LOOK, BOSS! THE SAFE OPENED EASY AS PIE FROM "MISS TELEPATH'S" INSTRUCTIONS!
HUH!!??? GOODNESS! ...MAYBE I'M A REAL TELEPATH AND DIDN'T KNOW IT! THE NIGHT-CLUB ACT COULD HAVE BROUGHT OUT MY HIDDEN MENTAL POWERS!
11 RIGHT
13 LEFT
5 LEFT
BACK 8
FORWARD 15

AND NOW, LOIS ANSWERS CONFIDENTLY AT THE CRIME LEADER'S NEXT REQUEST...
NOW GIVE US THE UNLISTED PHONE NUMBER OF PIERPONT DRAKE, THE RICHEST GUY IN TOWN!
SIMPLE, OF COURSE! THE VEIL IS LIFTING... I SEE THE NUMBERS CLEARLY IN MY MIND!... HIS PHONE IS...263-8979!

WHEN LARKIN DIALS...
IT'S THE RIGHT NUMBER!
NATURALLY, MY DEAR!
HELLO, MR. DRAKE? THIS IS YOUR INSURANCE FIRM. IT'S A GOOD THING YOU GAVE US YOUR PRIVATE NUMBER. WE HAVE A TIP YOU MIGHT BE ROBBED OF YOUR FAMILY JEWELRY TONIGHT! WE'LL SEND OUR OWN ARMED GUARDS AROUND...LET THEM IN!
OF COURSE, SIR! IF YOU KNOW MY UNLISTED NUMBER, YOU CAN'T BE CRIMINALS!

AND WHEN LARKIN'S MEN RETURN...
MY BOYS WERE LET IN AS "GUARDS", THEN ROBBED DRAKE AT GUN-POINT! YOU'RE TERRIFIC, "MISS TELEPATH," SO WE'LL KEEP YOU AROUND ANOTHER WEEK AND REALLY CASH IN!
A W-WEEK? MY BEING A REAL TELEPATH HAS KEPT ME ALIVE! BUT HE'LL NEVER LET ME GO, NOW!

AT BEDTIME, LOIS IS IMPRISONED IN ANOTHER SUBWAY COACH, WITH TRIXIE AS HER GUARD...
MY TELEPATHIC POWERS FRIGHTEN ME! AND THEY'RE HELPING CRIME! HMM... THE SIGNAL-WATCH STILL DOESN'T BRING SUPERMAN! WHAT LOOT WILL I BE PILING UP FOR "LONG ODDS" LARKIN TOMORROW?

NEXT MORNING, THE GANG CHIEF HAS ANOTHER CRIME PROBLEM FOR LOIS TO SOLVE!
LAST YEAR, AFTER A BANK JOB, "MOLE" MURDOCK BURIED HIS LOOT AS USUAL, BUT WAS SHOT BY THE COPS BEFORE HE COULD MAKE A MAP. A FORTUNE LIES UNDER ONE OF THE 20,000 TREES IN NORTHEAST FOREST - BUT WHICH ONE?
NORTHEAST FOREST PRESERVE

...I'M GETTING A FLASH... "MOLE" MURDOCK HID THE LOOT... IN THE 28TH TREE FROM THE NORTH, IN THE 15TH ROW FROM THE EAST!
GREAT! GET READY TO DO SOME DIGGING, BOYS!

AND AGAIN, TO LOIS' CONSTERNATION...
HERE'S MURDOCK'S LOOT, BOSS! IT WAS BURIED RIGHT WHERE SHE SAID!
OH, THIS IS TERRIBLE! I'M MAKING THESE CROOKS RICH! IF ONLY SUPERMAN WOULD ANSWER JIMMY'S SIGNAL-WATCH!
ZEE-ZEE-ZE
AND THIS TIME, HAVING FINISHED HIS INTERPLANETARY ERRAND OF MERCY, THE MAN OF STEEL FINALLY SHOWS UP!
SUPERMAN! IT'S ME...LOIS...USING JIMMY OLSEN'S SIGNAL-WATCH!
JUMP, LOIS....THEN I CAN SHAKE THE RATS OUT!
AFTER THE POLICE ARE SUMMONED TO TAKE THE GANG PRISONER...
...AND THAT'S THE STORY OF MY AMAZING TELE-PATHIC POWERS, SUPERMAN!
HMM...I CAN HARDLY BELIEVE IT! LET'S MAKE A TEST!
PRESENTLY, IN FRONT OF A SHOP WINDOW...
HMM...IT FLASHED INTO MY MIND... 2,367 JELLY BEANS!
WRONG, LOIS! USING MY SUPER-VISION FOR A SUPER-COUNT, THE ANSWER IS... 3,888! YOU'RE NOT EVEN CLOSE AND NEVER HAD ANY "TELEPATHIC" POWERS!
BIG PRIZE
HOW MANY JELLY BEANS IN THIS JAR?
JUST THEN, A THRILLING PARADE APPEARS DOWN THE STREET...
WAIT! SUPER-HORSE! LOR! THE MERMAID! AND SATURN GIRL! WHY, THEY ALL HAVE TELEPATHIC POWERS! I SEE IT NOW! IF JIMMY TOLD THEM I WAS LARKIN'S PRISONER, THEY COULD HAVE PROJECTED LONG-RANGE TELEPATHIC ANSWERS TO ME, SOLVING THE CRIME RIDDLES!
PAST
JOAN OF ARC
HELEN OF TROY
HISTORY'S
PRESENT
SUPERGIRL ON SUPER-HORSE
LORI THE MERMAID
GREATEST
FUTURE
HEROINES

BUT AFTER THE PARADE, WHEN LOIS QUESTIONS THE THREE...
NOT I, LOIS! I ONLY MADE A SHORT VISIT FROM THE FUTURE TODAY, FOR THE PARADE, AND WASN'T HERE YESTERDAY.
NOR I! I WAS BUSY UNDERSEA YESTERDAY!
AND I WAS ROMPING THROUGH SPACE WITH SUPERGIRL!
GOODNESS! IF THEY DIDN'T HELP ME, AND I HAD NO REAL TELEPATHIC POWERS, THEN HOW DID I ANSWER ALL OF THOSE CRIME PUZZLES CORRECTLY?
HMM...I THINK THE ANSWER LIES AT MY FORTRESS OF SOLITUDE, LOIS!
LATER, WITHIN THE MAN OF STEEL'S ARCTIC STRONGHOLD, AS HE OPERATES HIS SUPER-COMPUTER...
LOIS, LOOK AT THE GREAT ODDS AGAINST THE POSSIBILITY OF TWO BULLETS MEETING IN MID-AIR! OR THE SLIM CHANCE A PERSON HAS TO HOLD THE TOP WINNING TICKET IN THE IRISH SWEEPSTAKES!
4,547,453 TO 1
19,437,342 TO 1
YET, IN A RECENT GUN BATTLE BETWEEN POLICE AND CRIMINALS, THESE TWO FUSED BULLETS DID COLLIDE! AND EVERY YEAR, THAT ONE CHANCE OF WINNING THE TOP SWEEPSTAKES PRIZE DOES COME TRUE FOR SOME LUCKY PERSON!
THEN, AFTER SUPERMAN FEEDS IN THE KEY QUESTION...
LOIS, THOSE ARE THE HEAVY ODDS AGAINST ANY PERSON'S CHANCE OF GUESSING FOUR PROBLEMS CORRECTLY, ONE AFTER THE OTHER, AS YOU DID! IT SEEMS IMPOSSIBLE, BUT, BY THE LAWS OF CHANCE, THERE IS ONE CHANCE IN 326,454,839,047 OF IT HAPPENING!
I SEE, SUPERMAN! I WAS LUCKY ENOUGH TO HIT THAT "ONE CHANCE"!
326,454,839,047 TO 1
RIGHT, LOIS! THE ARMORED TRUCK... THE COMBINATION OF THE SAFE...THE UNLISTED PHONE...THE BURIED LOOT...EVERYTHING! YOUR ANSWER TO EACH PROBLEM WAS CORRECT... UP UNTIL THE JELLY-BEAN COUNT, WHEN YOUR "LUCKY STREAK" ENDED!
NEXT DAY, AT THE DAILY PLANET, LOIS HAS TWO HEADLINES!
AREN'T YOU HAPPY ABOUT YOUR SCOOPS, LOIS? WHAT'S WORRYING YOU?
I'M WONDERING WHAT THE...ER...CHANCES ARE OF SUPERMAN PROPOSING TO ME TODAY? GOSH! I WISH I WAS STILL MISS TELEPATH!
DAILY PLANET
LOIS LANE TRAPS CRIME GANG!
I WAS A GIRL TELEPATH. BY LOIS LANE
THE END!

LETTERS TO LOIS

Dear Editor: Although I am not a heavy reader of Superman's magazines, I bought one the other day. It was LOIS LANE No. 54, which featured an excellent cover and story illustrated by Kurt Schaffenberger, called "The Monster Who Loved Lois Lane." The depiction of Herko is about the best I have ever seen in *any* comic, and I hope to see much more of Herko. The ability of Schaffenberger to bring out so much pathos with such simple and uncluttered drawings amazed me. The final drawing of Herko, in which he has torn up a plant to offer Lois a bouquet, only to find her gone, is the only one I can recall in 20 years of comic reading that has aroused such a feeling of sympathy for *any* comic character, monster *or human!* Thanks for a tale that strikes me as ranking among the very best comic stories ever published.—Roy Thomas, St. Louis, Mo.

(And thanks for the rave notice from Roy Thomas, the new publisher of ALTER-EGO, comicdom's first fanzine. To Roy and many others who have asked for him, we promise that Herko, the lovable monster, *will* be back in the May issue.—Ed.)

* * *

Dear Editor: As a coin collector, I found a few mistakes in "Lois Lane, Daily Planet Editor," First, there have been no Liberty Head Nickels in circulation since 1920. Also, the head on the Liberty Nickels faces to the left, not the right. Finally, the date was on the bottom, not on the side.—Paul Bennett, Latham, N.Y.

(Judging from the number of letters we received on this subject, nothing slips past our eagle-eyed, coin-collecting readers. Should we hang our *heads* or turn *tail?*—Ed.)

Dear Editor: In LOIS LANE No. 53, Miss Agnes Breen is the one who should stand corrected when she says that no one but a registered nurse is allowed to give a patient medicine. There are millions of us licensed practical nurses who can, and do, give medication daily. We have received thorough training in pharmacology, which qualifies us to perform this duty. I hope you will correct Miss Breen's statement, as it will certainly make a lot of us L.P.N.'s feel better. I also hope I'll see Lois as a volunteer nurse again. I thoroughly enjoyed that story in No. 50 in spite of your little error. It was still excellent "diversional therapy."—Ruth E. Beard, Williston, N. Dak.

(Thanks for your clarification. Knowing you like our stories is good "therapy" for us, too. —Ed.)

* * *

Dear Editor: I was appalled by the way Lois and Lana acted in "Lois Lane, Cupid." I realize that Lois would make any sacrifice to become Mrs. Superman, but what makes her think she can meddle with other people's lives in her eagerness? However, Lois is not the only one at fault. Lana was pretty cruel when she found out Clark (apparently) was not Superman. I ask you, how could the Man of Steel possibly want to marry such a selfish, rude, inconsiderate female as either Lois or Lana?—Janice Hudson, Decatur, Ala.

(Don't judge the girls *too* harshly. Lois has several times passed up the chance to trap the Man of Steel into marriage, because she wants to marry him only if he really wants her. As for Lana's "cruelty" to Clark, remember that she thought *he* was the one who tricked her into thinking he was Superman.—Ed.)

Coming SUPER-ATTRACTIONS!
APRIL JIMMY OLSEN ON SALE FEB. 25th
Jimmy Olsen Films The BATTLE OF THE CENTURY!
TITANO the SUPER-APE Versus The FLAME DRAGON from KRYPTON!
in "OLSEN'S MONSTER MOVIE!"
APRIL Adventure COMICS ON SALE FEB. 25th
Featuring "The TRIUMPH of the LEGION of SUPER-VILLAINS!"
The LEGION of SUPER-HEROES face their greatest challenge when the mightiest villains of all time— COSMIC KING, SATURN QUEEN and LIGHTNING LORD take over the LEGION for their own evil purposes!
APR. SUPERBOY ON SALE FEB. 18th
Featuring "The FATE of the FUTURE SUPERMAN!"
IN THE FAR FUTURE, SUPERBOY LEARNS THAT HIS 30th DESCENDANT HAS BEEN EXECUTED FOR MURDER!
Also— MXYZPTLK BECOMES "The INVULNERABLE IMP!"

SUPERMAN'S GIRL FRIEND LOIS LANE

AN UNTOLD TALE

THE FRIENDLY FEUD BETWEEN LOIS LANE AND LANA LANG, AS EACH GIRL STRIVES VIGOROUSLY TO LEAD **SUPERMAN** TO THE ALTAR, HAS BEEN GOING ON FOR A LONG TIME! NOW WE REVEAL A RUSE THAT LOIS PULLED ON HER RIVAL YEARS AGO, IN A CAREFULLY CALCULATED EFFORT TO GET RID OF LANA'S COMPETITION ...SO LOIS COULD HAVE A BETTER CHANCE TO MARRY **SUPERMAN** HERSELF! YOU'LL HOWL WITH LAUGHTER WHEN YOU READ THE UNEXPECTED OUTCOME OF...

LOIS LANE'S SUPER-GAMBLE

LANA! YOUR **BEAUTY, BRILLIANCE, TALENT** AND **ALLURE** HAVE SNARED MY HEART! THOSE RINGS I MATERIALIZED ON YOUR FINGERS MEAN... **I WANT YOU TO MARRY ME!**
OH, YES, **IDEAL-MAN! YES!!**
AND TO THINK I OWE THIS MOMENT OF SUPREME HAPPINESS TO THE CLEVERNESS OF MY DEAR, DEAR FRIEND, LOIS LANE!
HA, HA! NOW THAT I'VE CONNED LANA INTO BECOMING THE BRIDE OF **ANOTHER** DYNAMIC CRUSADER, SHE'LL NO LONGER BE AN **OBSTACLE** TO **MY** MARRYING **SUPERMAN!!**

THIS **UNTOLD** STORY BEGINS YEARS AGO, SHORTLY AFTER LANA LANG FIRST CAME TO **METROPOLIS**...

THANK YOU **SO** MUCH FOR LETTING ME INTERVIEW YOU ON MY NEW TV SHOW, **SUPERMAN!** IT'S BEEN **SUCH** FUN...ESPECIALLY REMINISCING ABOUT OUR CHILDHOOD TOGETHER IN SMALLVILLE, WHEN YOU WERE **SUPERBOY!**
GR-RR...

BUT YOU'RE A BIG GIRL NOW, LANA... AND **VERY** BEAUTIFUL!
WHAT AN **IDIOT** I AM! I HELPED LANA GET THIS JOB AND NOW THAT UNGRATEFUL SNIP IS TRYING TO STEAL **SUPERMAN** AWAY FROM **ME!**
ISN'T HE SWEET, VIEWERS?...GOODBYE, UNTIL TOMORROW!

YOU'RE NOT FOOLING ME, LANA LANG! YOU'RE OUT TO GET SUPERMAN FOR A HUSBAND! HANDS OFF HIM! HE'S MINE!
I DON'T SEE ANY ENGAGEMENT RING ON YOUR FINGER, LOIS! UNTIL SUPERMAN PROPOSES TO SOME GIRL, ANY GAL IS FREE TO TRY TO WIN HIM...INCLUDING ME! SO SHEATH YOUR CLAWS, DARLING!

THAT NIGHT, LOIS TWISTS AND TURNS FOR HOURS, SLEEP ELUDING HER AS SHE KEEPS RECALLING...
BUT YOU'RE A BIG GIRL NOW, LANA...AND VERY BEAUTIFUL!
I KNOW SUPERMAN IS TERRIBLY INTERESTED IN ME—BUT IF LANA KEEPS FLUTTERING HER EYELASHES AT HIM, SHE MAY LURE HIM INTO MARRIAGE! —HOW AWFUL!

THEN, WHEN SHE FINALLY DROPS OFF, A NIGHTMARE, SPAWNED OUT OF HER INSECURITY, TAUNTS HER...
;SOB!... AND TO THINK I, INSTEAD OF LANA, COULD HAVE BEEN SUPERMAN'S BRIDE IF THAT SCHEMING FEMALE HADN'T COME BETWEEN US! I SHOULD HAVE STOPPED HER WHILE THERE WAS STILL TIME...

NEXT MORNING... I HAVE TO SAVE SUPERMAN FROM THAT DESIGNING WOMAN, SO I CAN GET HIM! I HAVEN'T FIGURED OUT YET HOW I'LL DO IT, BUT—"WHERE THERE'S A WILL, THERE'S A WAY!"...ALSO, "ALL'S FAIR IN LOVE AND WAR!"

LATER, AT THE PLANET...
I'LL BE AWAY FOR A FEW HOURS, LOIS!
YOU CAN WRITE THAT ARTICLE ABOUT SUPERMAN'S SPACE ADVENTURES IN MY OFFICE, WHILE I'M GONE! SUPERMAN DROPPED OFF A REEL OF TAPE THIS MORNING, CONTAINING INFORMATION THAT'LL BE HELPFUL TO YOU...
THANKS, PERRY!

;SIGH!... I COULD LISTEN TO SUPERMAN'S DYNAMIC VOICE FOREVER! IT THRILLS ME TO THE VERY TIPS OF MY TOES!
...AND ON THE PLANET ZYST I DEFEATED A WILD HYPNO-BEAST WITH MY SUPER-HYPNOTISM, WHICH PROVED MIGHTIER THAN HIS!

SUDDENLY...
THEN IT'S SETTLED, IDEAL-MAN! DURING EXCHANGE WEEK, I'LL GO TO YOUR PLANET, KNARP—AND PATROL IT! AND YOU'LL COME HERE AND PATROL EARTH! WE'VE BEEN GOOD FRIENDS AND WILL REMAIN SO FOR THE REST OF OUR LIVES!
SPLENDID, SUPERMAN! I KNOW I'LL FIND MY TEMPORARY STAY ON EARTH MOST INTERESTING!
?-SUPERMAN SPOKE TO SOMEONE ON A SPACE MONITOR...MAYBE HE DIDN'T REALIZE HIS TAPE-RECORDER WAS STILL ON...

ABRUPTLY, LOIS' BUSY LITTLE BRAIN GETS AN INSPIRATION...
WOW! THIS TAPE CAN HELP ME GET RID OF COMPETITION FROM LANA LANG! ALL I HAVE TO DO IS CHANGE ITS MEANING BY SNIPPING OUT A FEW WORDS HERE AND THERE AND REARRANGING THEIR ORDER. I'LL GET BUSY RIGHT NOW!

AFTERWARD, LOIS PHONES LANA AND SUGGESTS THEY LUNCH TOGETHER! THEN...
OH, BY THE WAY...TOO BAD ABOUT SUPERMAN LEAVING EARTH FOREVER, ISN'T IT?
FOREVER? YOU'RE KIDDING! I DON'T BELIEVE IT!

BUT AS LOIS INSISTS LANA COME AND HEAR THE "PROOF"...
THEN IT'S SETTLED, IDEAL-MAN! I'LL GO TO YOUR PLANET, KNARP—AND PATROL IT! AND YOU'LL COME HERE AND PATROL EARTH! FOR THE REST OF OUR LIVES!
OH, MY GOODNESS! HE'S REALLY FORSAKING EARTH!
ISN'T IT A SHAME?
SPLENDID, SUPERMAN!
IF SHE ONLY KNEW I DOCTORED THE TAPE WITH SCISSORS AND GLUE!

SUPERMAN... OUT OF MY LIFE...
THIS JUST CAME OVER THE TELE-TYPE MACHINE! SUPERMAN IS GONE! IDEAL-MAN JUST ARRIVED ON EARTH... AND HE GUIDED AN OFF-COURSE SATELLITE INTO ORBIT, WITH HIS BARE HANDS!
CHUCKLE
NOW FOR THE NEXT STEP IN MY LITTLE PLOT!

GOSH, I WONDER WHAT IDEAL-MAN LOOKS LIKE? MAYBE HE'S A REAL DREAM-BOAT...HANDSOME, AND WITH A TERRIFIC PHYSIQUE!
CHUCKLE!- LANA LOOKS INTERESTED! I KNEW SHE WOULD BE!

AFTER LANA LEAVES...
MY SCHEME IS SURE-FIRE! I'LL ENCOURAGE LANA TO PURSUE AND TRY TO MARRY IDEAL-MAN! BIG-HEARTED ME...HA, HA...WILL HELP HER LAND HIM! AFTER SHE'S HIS HAPPY BRIDE, IT'LL BE EASIER FOR YOURS TRULY TO GET SUPERMAN TO PROPOSE!

SHORTLY, AS A SUDDEN FREAK TORNADO MENACES A CARNIVAL ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF METROPOLIS...
GASP!... IDEAL-MAN IS PREVENTING THAT FERRIS WHEEL FROM BEING BLOWN OVER! WHAT SUPER-STRENGTH!
CORRECTION! ON KNARP, IT'S REFERRED TO AS MARVELO-STRENGTH!

MOMENTS LATER, AS THE ADONIS-LIKE MAN OF MIGHT STREAKS ABOVE THE TEEMING CITY...
PUFF-FF
HE'S USING HIS SUPER-BREATH TO BREAK UP THE TORNADO BEFORE IT WRECKS THE CITY!
I HEAR HE CALLS IT MARVELO-BREATH!

YES, EVERYONE IS THRILLED BY THE ARRIVAL ON EARTH OF IDEAL-MAN, INCLUDING LANA, WHO VISITS LOIS AT THE PLANET...
HMMM...I GUESS HE'S NOT LETTING IT BE KNOWN YET THAT HE'S TAKING SUPERMAN'S PLACE PERMANENTLY. I GUESS HE'LL BREAK THE NEWS LATER, SO IT WON'T COME AS A SUDDEN SHOCK!
JUST WHAT I HOPED SHE'D THINK!

HELLO, LANA! I'M GLAD YOU'RE HERE, BECAUSE I JUST GOT A MESSAGE FROM IDEAL-MAN. HE'LL BE DROPPING BY SHORTLY. HE'S LEARNED YOU TWO GIRLS ARE EXPERTS ON SUPERMAN! HE WANTS TO ASK SOME QUESTIONS!

ISN'T IT EXCITING, LANA? WE'RE ABOUT TO MEET EARTH'S NEW DYNAMIC CRUSADER! WOULDN'T IT BE...HA, HA!...MARVELOUS...IF HE FELL IN LOVE WITH ONE OF US?!
BUT WHICH ONE?
LANA, LET'S NOT FIGHT OVER HIM, LIKE WE DID OVER SUPERMAN! LET'S BE GOOD SPORTS, THIS TIME! WE'LL DECIDE WHICH OF US SHOULD SET HER CAP FOR HIM! AND THE OTHER GIRL WILL HELP HER IN EVERY WAY POSSIBLE!
PARDON MY ONE-TRACK MIND, BUT WHICH GIRL WILL BE THE LUCKY ONE?
LET'S LEAVE IT TO CHANCE! WE'LL CUT THIS DECK OF CARDS SOMEONE ON THE NIGHT SHIFT LEFT LYING HERE! WHOEVER PICKS THE HIGHER CARD CAN TRY TO MARRY IDEAL-MAN! THE LOSER WILL AID HER, SELFLESSLY!—YOU FIRST!
AGREED!
ACTUALLY, I BROUGHT THE CARDS MYSELF FOR THIS PURPOSE!
I PICKED THE QUEEN OF HEARTS! BEAT THAT, IF YOU CAN!
YOU WIN! I DREW...
SHORTLY, WHEN IDEAL-MAN ARRIVES AT THE DAILY PLANET OFFICE...
...THE DEUCE OF CLUBS! MY CONGRATULATIONS!
ACTUALLY, I TOPPED HER WITH THE ACE OF DIAMONDS! BUT I WANT HER TO WIN! SHE'LL TAKE MY WORD FOR IT, NEVER SUSPECTING SHE'S BEEN TRICKED!
HOORAY!
I NEED YOUR HELP! WILL YOU GIRLS COME WITH ME?
WE'D BE DELIGHTED!
WHAT A DREAM-BOAT!
SHE'S ATTRACTED TO HIM! GOOD!

IN A FEW MOMENTS WE'LL BE INSIDE THE SECRET SANCTUM I'VE HOLLOWED OUT WITHIN THIS MOUNTAIN!
I JUST LOVE HIS CURLY BLOND HAIR! AND WHAT A SMILE!

PRESENTLY...
YOU'D LIKE US TO TRANSLATE THE KRYPTONESE WRITING ON THIS GIFT SUPERMAN GAVE TO YOU?
YES. I'LL BE BACK RIGHT AFTER I HANDLE A CERTAIN EMERGENCY! MY MARVELO-HEARING DETECTED A SMALL EXPLOSION! AND MY MARVELO-VISION REVEALS ADDITIONAL ACCIDENTAL EXPLOSIONS MAY DESTROY A MUNITIONS FACTORY!

AFTER THE MAN OF MIGHT FLIES OFF...
I DON'T DIG KRYPTONESE!
I KNOW A LITTLE- I HOPE IDEAL-MAN DOESN'T COME BACK TOO SOON! FIGURING THIS OUT WILL TAKE ME SOME TIME! WHEN HE RETURNS, YOU TAKE THE CREDIT FOR TRANSLATING IT! I PROMISED TO HELP YOU, AND I WILL!

A WHILE LATER...
ANY LUCK, LOIS?
I GIVE UP! THIS IS GIVING ME BRAIN-FATIGUE! YOU TRY, LANA!
OKAY!
NOW, TO REPEAT WHAT LOIS TOLD ME!

I'M UNFAMILIAR WITH THIS LANGUAGE, BUT I DEDUCE...HM-MMM...THE KRYPTONESE WRITING SAYS THAT THIS IS A COPY OF A KRYPTONIAN DEVICE, MADE BY SUPERMAN! WITH IT, YOU CAN QUICKLY DETERMINE THE CURRENT TIME ON ANY PLANET, IN RELATION TO EARTH-TIME!
WHAT A LIGHTNING-FAST TRANSLATION! YOU ARE BRILLIANT

THANK YOU! I NEED MORE ASSISTANCE, HOWEVER! I WANT TO SEND REPORTS BACK TO NEWSPAPERS ON MY WORLD ABOUT SUCH MATTERS AS... EARTHLINGS' HOBBIES! WHAT IS YOUR HOBBY, LANA?
FIRST, LET ME SHOW YOU MINE! WATCH!

FORTUNATELY, I HAVE SOME BUBBLE GUM I BOUGHT TO GIVE TO A NEIGHBOR'S CHILD!
THIS IS A HOBBY? IT'S SOMEWHAT CHILDISH, IF YOU ASK ME! – EXCUSE ME, WHILE I GO CHECK MY EMERGENCY-MONITOR TO SEE IF ALL'S WELL!
PS-ST! TELL HIM TO COME TO YOUR PLACE TOMORROW NIGHT TO SEE SAMPLES OF YOUR HOBBY! I HAVE AN IDEA!
ALL RIGHT. – I KNOW YOU'RE PURPOSELY MAKING A BAD IMPRESSION ON IDEAL-MAN SO I'LL LOOK WONDERFUL IN COMPARISON TO YOU! YOU'RE A GREAT SPORT, LOIS!
NEXT NIGHT, AT LANA'S APARTMENT...
COME RIGHT IN! LANA'S HOBBY IS PAINTING PORTRAITS OF GREAT HEROES, SUCH AS SAMSON, HERCULES AND SUPERMAN.
RIGHT NOW, I'M FINISHING A PAINTING OF THE GREATEST HERO OF ALL – YOU! PLEASE POSE FOR THE FINAL TOUCHES!
MINUTES LATER...
THERE! IT'S DONE! MY MASTERPIECE!
YOU ARE NOT ONLY BEAUTIFUL, BUT EXTREMELY TALENTED, AS WELL!
HA! SHE'D HAVE TROUBLE PAINTING THE SIDE OF A BARN! THOSE PICTURES WERE BORROWED FROM AN ARTIST I KNOW! HE DID A RUSH JOB ON THE PAINTING OF IDEAL-MAN... AND LEFT LIGHTLY PENCILLED LINES FOR LANA TO PAINT IN!
YOU GIRLS HAVE BEEN VERY HELPFUL! I'D ALSO LIKE TO SEND INFORMATION TO THE PEOPLE OF KNARP ABOUT EARTH CUSTOMS!
I KNOW JUST THE PLACE FOR SOME RESEARCH ON THAT SUBJECT! THERE'S A BIG PARTY TONIGHT AT METROPOLIS HALL! I'LL GET US IN WITH MY PRESS-CARD! LET'S GO!
I PLANNED TO TAKE THEM THERE, ANYWAY. I PLANTED SOMETHING THERE, EARLIER!
SOON, AT THE GAILY DECORATED HALL...
HMM... SO THIS IS TYPICAL EARTH RECREATION, EH?
YIPES! I KNOCKED OVER A SALT SHAKER, ACCIDENTALLY! THAT MEANS BAD LUCK!
I DID IT ACCIDENTALLY-ON-PURPOSE!

FORTUNATELY, SPRINKLING SALT OVER MY LEFT SHOULDER CANCELS OUT THE BAD LUCK!
BUT THAT'S JUST A SILLY SUPERSTITION! FOOLISH CUSTOMS LIKE THAT WERE DISCARDED ON KNARP THOUSANDS OF YEARS AGO!
ON KNARP, ONLY THOSE WITH PRIMITIVE INTELLECTS ARE AFFLICTED WITH SUCH TRAITS! PERHAPS LOIS SHOULD SEE A PSYCHIATRIST, LANA! COULD YOU ER...SHOW ME ANOTHER EARTH CUSTOM?
OF COURSE...LOOK AT THAT MISTLETOE, WHICH MUST HAVE BEEN LEFT OVER FROM A CHRISTMAS PARTY!
CORRECTION... WHICH I PLANTED!
IT'S THE CUSTOM ON EARTH, AT CHRISTMAS TIME, FOR A MAN...IF HE SEES A GIRL STANDING UNDER SOME MISTLETOE, AND HE LIKES HER...TO KISS HER!
MOST INTERESTING! PERMIT ME TO PRACTICE THE CUSTOM—STRICTLY FOR SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH, OF COURSE!
WOW! WHAT AN ARDENT KISS! AND HE'S RELUCTANT TO STOP! HE MUST BE FALLING FOR HER—JUST AS I HOPED HE WOULD!—LOIS, DEAR GIRL, YOU'RE A GENIUS!
THEN...
WHEW! I... ALMOST SWOONED!
DID YOU...LIKE THAT CUSTOM?
I'LL SHOW HOW MUCH I LIKED IT!
SUDDENLY, A DAZZLING BURST OF LIGHT...
I C-CAN'T SEE!
ME, NEITHER!
DO NOT BE ALARMED!

NEXT INSTANT...
I CAN SEE AGAIN! GULP! ...TH-THREE RINGS MATERIALIZED ON MY FINGERS! IS THIS THE CUSTOM USED BY THE KNARPIAN MALES TO PROPOSE?
IT IS! YOUR BEAUTY, BRILLIANCE, TALENT AND ALLURE HAVE SNARED MY HEART! WE'LL BE MARRIED AT ONCE IN A QUIET CEREMONY!
GREAT! — AFTER SHE MARRIES IDEAL-MAN, SHE WON'T BE MY RIVAL FOR THE LOVE OF SUPERMAN!

SHORTLY, AS THE WEDDING CEREMONY BEGINS AT THE OFFICE OF A JUSTICE OF THE PEACE...
WE ARE GATHERED...
ONE MOMENT, PLEASE!
OH, NO! IDEAL-MAN REMOVED A REALISTIC PLASTIC MASK! HE'S SECRETLY...
SUPERMAN! AND I TRICKED LANA INTO MARRYING IDEAL-MAN SO SHE WOULDN'T BE AN OBSTACLE TO MY MARRYING YOU!

BUT THE TAPE I DOCTORED! THERE WERE TWO VOICES!
BOTH VOICES WERE MINE! BUT ONE WAS DISGUISED! I STAGED THE HOAX BECAUSE, AFTER THE TV INTERVIEW, I OVERHEARD YOU AND LANA ARGUING OVER ME, AND DECIDED TO TEACH YOU A LESSON, LOIS! I FIGURED YOU'D ALTER THE TAPE TO FOOL LANA! — BY THE WAY, KNARP... BACKWARDS... SPELLS "PRANK" — MY PRIVATE JOKE!
I HAD INTENDED THE LESSON JUST FOR YOU, LOIS. BUT WHEN MY SUPER-VISION, REVEALED YOU AND LANA CUTTING THE CARDS, I DECIDED TO GO FOR LANA AS "IDEAL-MAN" AND TEACH BOTH OF YOU THE LESSON!
AND YOU CAUSED THAT BLINDING FLASH WITH YOUR SUPER-VISION, THEN SLIPPED THE RINGS ON ME AT SUPER-SPEED! THEY DIDN'T REALLY MATERIALIZE!

BUT HOAX OR NO HOAX, SUPERMAN ...YOU PROPOSED TO ME AND I ACCEPTED! SO... ON WITH THE WEDDING!
MOAN! - MY "CLEVER" PLOT HAS B-BACKFIRED! BECAUSE OF IT, I'LL LOSE SUPERMAN, FOREVER!
NO, LANA! IT WAS IDEAL-MAN WHO PROPOSED, REMEMBER? AND HE NEVER REALLY EXISTED! BESIDES, IT WAS MIGHTY FICKLE OF YOU TO FALL FOR A NEW HERO SO QUICKLY!

THEN, AFTER SUPERMAN SUPER-SWIFTLY CHANGES TO HIS USUAL COSTUME...
GOODBYE, GIRLS! I HOPE THIS HAS TAUGHT YOU A LESSON!
WE'LL NEVER FORGET IT!
NEVER!!
JUSTICE OF THE PEACE
AND SO ENDS OUR UNTOLD STORY. DID SUPERMAN'S "LESSON" DO THE GIRLS MUCH GOOD? EVIDENTLY NOT!
THE END.